RE: Support of H.B. 5898- An Act Concerning Aid In Dying For Terminally ILL Patients

I am in support of the above bill and hope that you see the importance of supporting this bill for the citizens of CT. This bill is about giving me and my loved ones a choice in how I / they want to be able to handle the devastating news if we were to get diagnosed with a terminal disease. Knowing that you have options makes handling the news easier as stated by many articles that have been written by people is this position. The majority of people that live in the states that have already approved this legislation do not use the medication when the time comes.

Knowing that there are strict guidelines in place for this bill should assure you that it will not be abused. This bill now has the support of Connecticut Medical Society which should make it more comfortable for you to support and also should make the people you represent more comfortable with their support of the bill.

When making your decision to either support or not support this bill you should put yourself in the position as if you had just received a devastating diagnosis. Knowing that in our state, you could have with the passage of this bill, a choice on how you would like to be remembered at the end of your life. With a terminal diagnosis your body will start to fail and it should be your decision alone as to how you would like to be remembered by your spouse, children, family and friends.

Keeping our dignity during our life is so very important that we should have a choice in maintaining our dignity at the end of our life.

I hope that you can support this important bill for the benefit of all citizens of CT.

Theresa Collins

theresacollins@comcast.net